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United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

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DIST	SECRET	S/S	March 12, 1989	we
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D	TO:	The Secretary		YHD
P	THRU: FROM:	P - R. Kimmitt		cm
С	- 11011.	PM - H. Allen Holm NEA - Paul J. Hare	Actind	PA
PM		H - Janet G. Mulli	ng/	
NEA	SUBJECT: Certification to Permit Continued Sale			0.05.005
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INR		Fiscal Year 1989	ional Defense Authoriza	tion Act,
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ISSUE FOR DECISION

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Whether to sign the attached memorandum to the President recommending that he certify to the Congress that Saudi Arabia does not possess biological, chemical, or nuclear warheads for the intermediate-range ballistic missiles purchased from the People's Republic of China.

ESSENTIAL FACTORS

Section 1307 of the National Defense Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1989 (PL 100-456) provides that during fiscal year 1989, the U.S. may "not make any sale of defense articles subject to Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act to any nation which has acquired intermediate-range ballistic missiles made by the People's Republic of China." The legislation provides that this restriction will cease to apply upon certification that such nation does not have chemical, biological, or nuclear warheads for the intermediate-range missiles. Saudi Arabia is the only country which has acquired such intermediate-range ballistic missiles and, therefore, requires such certification.

Section 36(b) requires the notification for the following: those items of significant military equipment valued at \$14 million or more and any other defense articles or services valued at \$50 million or more. Each of these sales will be the subject of separate approval before notification to Congress.

United States Department of State
Office of FOI, Privacy, & Classification Review
Review Authority: AINSWORTH, THOMAS
Date: 11/25/94
Case ID: 9100730

SECRET DECL: OADR

SECRET

There is no credible intelligence reporting indicating that Saudi Arabia possesses biological, chemical or nuclear warheads for its missiles purchased from the PRC. We are not aware of any production facilities of chemical or biological weapons or agents. In addition, Saudi Arabia adheres to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which includes commitments not to acquire nuclear weapons and to submit any peaceful nuclear facilities to international safeguards. Saudi Arabia is a party to the Biological Warfare Convention which prohibits the manufacture or possession of biological or toxin weapons, and the 1925 Geneva Protocol, which prohibits the use in war of chemical weapons.

Based on the information available to the U.S. Government, we believe that you should recommend to the President that he can and should make the certification that Saudi Arabia does not possess chemical, biological, or nuclear warheads.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached Memorandum for the President.

Attachment:

Memorandum for the President

Drafted:PM/SAS:SSavage 2/16/89 W#1034 x5284

Cleared: PM/SAS: MDworken PM: VLehovich